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CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An electronic handheld processing device comprising:

   a memory storing demographic information, patient diagnosis information and billing information;

   an interface to enable physicians to input billing and diagnosis information; and

   an interface to communicate with an interface device for downloading billing and diagnosis information and receiving updated patient demographic information.

2. The electronic handheld processing device claim 1, wherein the patient information can be sorted by different categories.

3. The electronic handheld processing device of claim 2, wherein the patient information is sorted by patient location.

4. The electronic handheld processing device of claim 1, wherein the handheld processing device provides guideline notifications assiciated with different billing codes.

5. The electronic handheld processing device of claim 1, wherein changes in guidelines associated with the billing codes are flagged by an alarm.

6. The electronic handheld processing device of claim 1, further comprising billing code and diagnosis menus specific to a physician.

7. The electronic handheld processing device of claim 6, further comprising medical procedures evaluation and management menus.

8. The electronic handheld processing device claim 1, further comprising a bar code scanner.

9. A method for automating the billing process for physicians using an electronic handheld processing device the method comprising:

    displaying patient demographic information on a screen of the handheld processing device;

    displaying billing information on the screen of the handheld processing
10 device;

    selecting the required patient and billing information once a patient has been examined; and

    outputting billing code data to an interface device for distributing the billing code data to information systems for further processing to generate
15 medical bills.

10. The method for automating the billing process of claim 9, further comprising sorting the patient information by different categories.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the patient information is sorted by patient locations.

20 12. The method of claim 9, further comprising displaying guideline notifications for different billing codes.

13. The method of claim 9, wherein changes in guidelines associated with the billing codes are flagged by an alarm.

14. The method of claim 9, further comprising displaying billing code and diagnosis menus specific to a physician.

15. The method of claim 14, further comprising displaying medical procedures and evaluation menus specific to a physician.

16. A method in a computer system for automating a physicians billing process, comprising:

    displaying a list of patients to be seen on a particular day;

    displaying a list of patient locations;

    displaying billing codes;

    receiving a billing code selection corresponding to a patient examined by a physician;

    creating a new billing record for the patient;

    an interface device, sending billing codes for the patient to an information processing system to generate a medical bill.

17. The method of claim 16, further comprising, sorting the patient information by different categories.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the patient information is sorted by patient locations.

19. The method of claim 16, further comprising displaying guideline notifications for different billing codes.

20. The method of claim 16, wherein changes in guidelines associated with billing codes are flagged by an alarm.

SUB D8/

21. The method of claim 16, further comprising displaying billing code and diagnosis menus specific to a physician.

22. The method of claim 21, further comprising displaying medical procedures and evaluation menus specific to a physician.

ADD D9/